

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O CNAGAO

APPROVEDD BY:S/S-O RWIRIGHT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 202413

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK, SAIGON
FROM VIENTIANE OCT 11.

QUOTE VIENTIANE 7026.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PINT, PINS, LA

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF LAO PROTOCOL

1. I CALLED ON PHENG PHONGSAVAN TODAY TO GET THE
LATEST INFORMATION ON THE FORTHCOMING ARRIVAL OF
PATHET LAO SECURITY FORCES. PHENG CONFIRMED THAT
APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED PL TROOPS WOULD BE ARRIVING
ON OCTOBER 12 AS HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED AND
THAT THERE WOULD BE A SUBSEQUENT ARRIVAL OF PL TROOPS
IN LUANG PRABANG.

2. PHENG STATED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CABLING
SISOUK INSTRUCTING HIM TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL
SUPPORT FROM THE U.S. IN ORDER TO MEET THE ADDITIONAL
EXPENSES OF THE JCIA AND IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE RLG
TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PL REPRESENTATIVES.

3. I TOLD PHENG THAT IT HAD BEEN MY UNDERSTANDING
SECRET

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THAT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR VARIOUS ARTICLES OF FURNITURE
AND VEHICLES WAS TO BE SENT TO US AS WELL AS TO
OTHER EMBASSIES IN VIENTIANE. TO MY KNOWLEDGE NO
SUCH REQUEST HAD YET BEEN MADE BUT I HAD WITH ME A

LIST OF FURNITURE WHICH THE EMBASSY COULD MAKE
AVAILABLE TO THE RLG.

4. PHENG SAID THAT THE RLG'S GREATEST NEED WAS
VEHICLES AND THAR FAR HAD TURNED DOWN A REQUEST FROM
SOUVANNA FOR JEEPS AND TRUCKS. I SAID THAT IT APPEARED
TO ME THAT FAR'S NEED FOR VEHICLES MUST BE LESSENER
NOW THAT THE CEASE-FIRE WAS IN EFFECT AND THAT THE
ARMY SHOULD OBVIOUSLY BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH A VERY
CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF TRUCKS AND JEEPS. FURTHERMORE,
THERE WERE PROBABLY MANY VEHICLES DEADLINED IN VARIOUS
GARAGES WHICH COULD BE QUICKLY REPAIRED. I BELIEVE
THAT PHENG CLEARLY GOT THE IDEA THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT
GOING TO RUSH FORWARD EAGERLY TO PROVIDE JEEPS AND
TRUCKS WHEN FAR WAS REFUSING TO DO SO AND WHEN NO OTHER
EMBASSY HAD YET BEEN APPROACHED.

5. PHENG INFORMED ME THAT THE PL WERE STILL BEING VERY
DISCREET WITH REGARD TO THE NAMES OF THE MINISTERS
THEY WOULD PROPOSE FOR THE PGNU. THE COMPOSITION OF
THE NEW CABINET WOULD NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL THE
SECURITY FORCES WERE IN PLACE AND THE PL REPRESENTATIVES
WERE READY TO COME TO VIENTIANE.

6. I ASKED PHENG WHETHER THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF
THESE SECURITY ELEMENTS WERE CLEAR AND HE REPLIED THAT
THEY WOULD BE AS SPELLED OUT IN THE PROTOCOL. THE
PL WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON POTENTIAL
PLOTS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS. THEY WOULD ALSO
HAVE TO GUARD AND PROTECT THEIR INSTALLATIONS AND
PERSONNEL. IN ORDER TO PERFORM THIS MISSION THEY WOULD
IN FACT HAVE TO CREATE A SECRET POLICE, AND EVENTUALLY
JOINT PATROLS WITH THE RLG POLICE WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

7. COMMENT. WITH THE APPREHENSIONS WHICH ARE NOW
CURRENT IN RIGHTIST CIRCLES, IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO
SEE HOW THE CONCEPT OF A PL SECRET POLICE OPERATING IN
SECRET

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VIENTIANE SITS.
WHITEHOUSE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

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